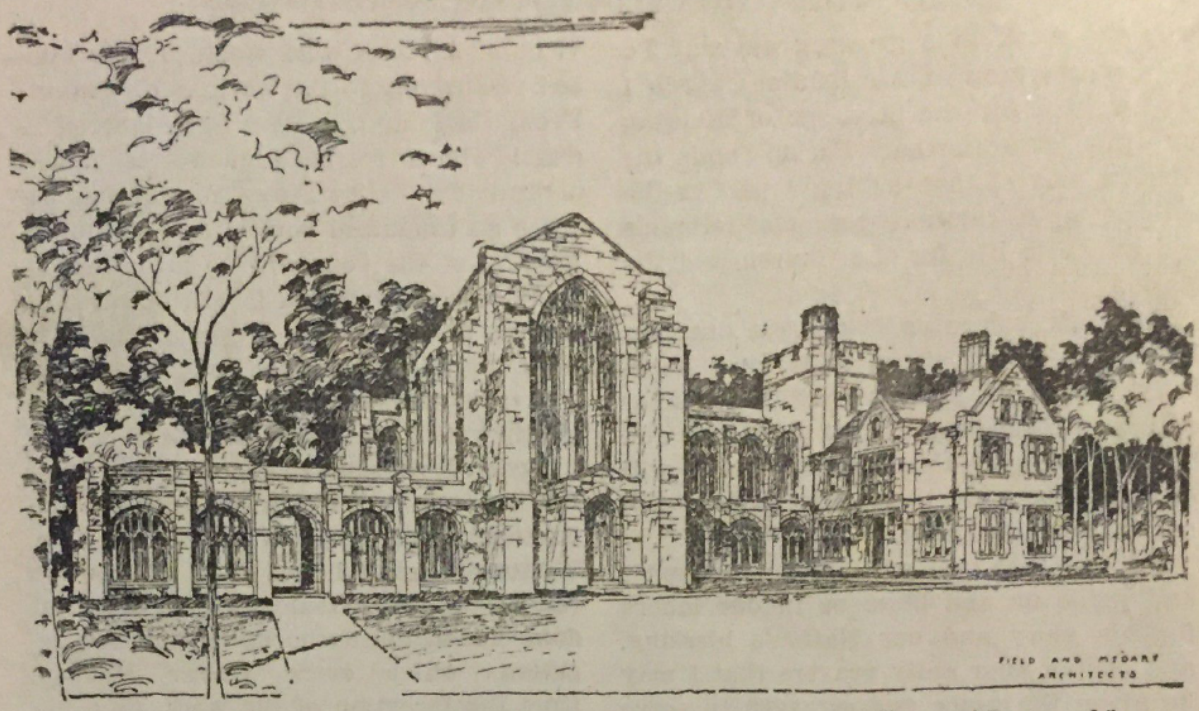
"For God and Country.



Cloister of the Colonies. Washington Memorial Chapel. Patriots' Hall. Tower and Rectory or Library

"No spot on earth—not the plains of Marathon, nor the passes of Sempach, nor the place of the Bastile, nor the dykes of Holland, nor the moors of England—is so sacred in the history of the struggle for human liberty as Valley Forge."

—CYRUS TOWNSEND BRADY.

The Washington Chapel Chronicle

Valley Forge.

A RECORD OF RELIGION AND PATRIOTISM.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE WASHINGTON CHAPEL GUILD.

MISS EMMA W. CRAWFORD, Editor. MRS. ROBERT WOOD, Business Manager

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The Rev. W. Herbert Burk Accepts the Rectorship.

The Rev. W. Herbert Burk has accepted the rectorship of the Washington Memorial Chapel, and will enter upon his duties January 16. The Vestry has received the following letter of acceptance:

All Saints' Rectory, Norristown, Pa.,
December 17, 1910.

To the Wardens and Vestrymen of the Washington Memorial Chapel, Valley Forge.

My Dear Friends:

Appreciating the honor you have conferred upon me by electing me to the rectorship of the Washington Memorial Chapel, Valley Forge, and Bishop Whitaker's hearty approval of your action, I gladly accept the rectorship and will enter upon my duties January 16, 1910, God willing. Your action is all the more gratifying to me because it is a practical endorsement of my plans for this memorial of Washington the Churchman and of the work which I have done in the past seven years for their realization. That I have not done more is due to the fact that my duties as rector of All Saints' Church came first, and I could give to the Mission only such time as could be spared

from the work in a growing parish. To the Congregation of All Saints' Church I am indebted for the privilege of dividing my time between that Parish and the Mission, and of thus having a part in the building up of this new center of religious and patriotic life for the Church and the Nation.

The task before us is a great one, but I enter upon my share in it most hopefully because I believe that God's favor will be continued, and that from you and the members of the Congregation I will receive that loyal support which will make the labor light.

Praying that God will unite us in spirit and guide us and bless us in our labors for his glory and our Nation's blessing, and asking your daily prayers that I may be given the grace and strength to serve both Him and you in life and work, I am

Faithfully yours,

W. HERBERT BURK.

The Rev. W. Herbert Burk in accepting the rectorship of the Washington Memorial Chapel, not only chose a smaller salary(that at the Chapel being $350 less per year than what he received at Norristown) but made other sacrifices for the Valley Forge work. Some of these are set forth in the following letter of resignation, which Mr. Burk sent to the vestry of All Saints' Church:

All Saints' Rectory,
Norristown, Pa., Dec. 15, 1910.

To the Wardens and Vestrymen of All Saints' Church, Norristown.

My Dear Friends:

The Vestry of the Washington Memorial Chapel, Valley Forge, with the approval of Bishop Whitaker, has invited me to become the first rector of the new parish, and I therefore ask you to accept my resignation from the rectorship of All Saints' Church, to take effect January 16, 1911.

More than a year has elapsed since I learned that you considered the best interests of the Parish demanded the services of a rector who would devote himself exclusively to the work at All Saints'. From that day to this I have labored to enable you to realize your desires, and as a result the Valley Forge mission has become an organized parish, and at the beginning of the year will be incorporated. Upon its incorporation it will be ready to receive from you the property held in trust for the use of that congregation.

Lest it should appear from my efforts to separate the Parish and Mission that I accepted your judgment that the latter was an incubus, I desire to state emphatically that I believe it was not. Whatever work I did for the Mission (and I did work zealously for it) was done under the authority of the congregation, which every Easter Monday, from the inception of the work, by a unanimous vote requested me to divide my labors between the Parish and the Mission. For more than three years, at no expense to All Saints' Church, the Convocation of Norristown provided an assistant minister to relieve me, as far as possible, from the duties at Valley Forge, and to make up to All Saints' Church so much time as the Mission might require. Therefore for more than three years this Parish had the services of two clergy for one salary, because the rector was engaged in missionary work.

Since the Mission was established the capacity of All Saints' Church was doubled by the erection of the sanctuary, choir and transepts at a cost of more than $22,000, the communicants increased from 283 to 360, and the Endowment Fund from $266.66 to $1038.07, and a special fund of $1000. The growth in spiritual power was not less gratifying, if not as easily noted.

To me the work at Valley Forge has been most helpful because it has been so largely a work of faith and its results the fruit of prayer. No one could go through such trying experiences as have been mine for the past seven years without being the stronger for them. They have deepened my trust and increased

my zeal since I have had to depend almost exclusively upon God for encouragement and help. That the Parish has shared this benefit I cannot doubt.

But, after all, my justification for my work at Valley Forge is our Master's great Commission to His Church.

Having to choose between the Parish and the Misison I have decided for the latter. More than one-third of my life has been spent in your service. For sixteen years I have given you the best I had to give and God has encouraged me through the blessings which He has wonderfully bestowed. From a struggling mission of forty communicants rent by dissensions and having a property worth $10,000 encumbered with a mortgage of $3000, the congregation has grown to number three hundred and sixty, in unity and moral power, in equipment and endowment. The equipment is more complete than that of most parishes in the Diocese. The Sunday School is one of the best in the Church. The Endowment Fund, begun by Mrs. Burk, amounts to over eleven hundred dollars (not including the special endowment of one thousand dollars for the increase of the rector's salary) and as soon as the estate of the Rev. Mr. Kaye is settled, will be fully ten thousand dollars. You have $36,000 perpetual insurance on church and rectory, and both church and parish house are so built as to be capable of enlargement to meet the growth for which we look. Above and beyond the equipment for work is the large body of trained workers, loyal and efficient, ready to follow wise leadership for Christ's glory. To give up all this is no small sacrifice; yet this is only what others see and know.

What All Saints' is to me I dare not attempt to express. Fully two-thirds of the communicants I have prepared for their consecration to God in Confirmation; while to others I have been drawn most closely in the hours of joy or sorrow. Through the long years no strife has marred our fellowship, while each year has made the friendship richer with trust and love. Moreover, Church and Sunday School and home are hallowed by the blessed memories of her who gave herself a willing sacrifice for the Master she loved to serve.

To break these ties is no light task, and I confess I shrank from it, and do so now, but the bonds were partly severed when I felt you distrusted my devotion to the Parish from which no outside influence had ever been able to tempt me. Moreover, I know the great needs of the Mission, and feel for it a personal responsibility, and I am conscious, too, of a personal fitness from God for the work to be done. God has given me the vision, endowed me for the work, and I dare no longer hesitate to give myself to it.

To-night I am deeply grateful to God for the years at All Saints', so full of happiness because so full of work and love. I have tried to serve you faithfully. That I have failed often I cannot doubt, and therefore I ask your forgiveness for my sins, whether of commission or omission, in life, or ministry, or both.

That God may guide you in the choice of my successor, and crown his labors with success; that the richest blessings may rest upon all who labor for the Christ; that All Saints' may always be a House of Prayer for all people, and a Gate of Heaven for generations; and that to you and yours may be given every spiritual grace and blessing is the prayer of your fellow servant in Christ Jesus our Lord.

W. HERBERT BURK.

The following schedule of services will go into effect on February 5th: Washington Memorial Chapel: 10.45 a. m., service, sermon and Holy Communion; 2.30 p. m., Sunday school and Bible classes; 3.45 p. m., service and sermon. The Holy Communion will be on the first Sunday in the month instead of the second. At Stewart Fund Hall, King-of-Prussia, the Sunday school will be at 9 o'clock.

Washington Memorial Chapel.
Valley Forge, Pa.

THE REV. W. HERBERT BURK
MINISTER IN CHARGE.
ALL SAINTS RECTORY, NORRISTOWN.

Mr. Frank Quigg, Warden and Treasurer,
Port Kennedy, Pa.
Mr. Charles Wells Walker,
Rector's Warden,
Devon, Pa.
Mr. Leslie Jefferis, Secretary,
Bridgeport, Pa.

VESTRYMEN.

Mr. Edward H. Binns, Mr. Thomas H Dobson, Gen. B. F. Fisher, Mr. Nathan B. Hughes, Mr. Leslie Jefferis, Mr. Frank Quigg, Mr. S. Col. Summerill, Mr. Clayland Stephens Walker, Mr. Charles Wells Walker.

Mr. Leslie Jefferis,
Treasurer of the Building Fund,
Bridgeport, Pa.

Miss Mary M. Hibbs, Chorister.
Miss Mary Supplee Stephens, Organist.
Mr. John Warriner, Sexton.

Sundays.

2.30 P. M. Sunday School and Bible Classes.
3.45 P. M. Service and Sermon.

Calendar.

JANUARY.

15. Second Sunday after Epiphany.
22. Third Sunday after Epiphany.
25. Conversion of St. Paul.
29. Fourth Sunday after Epiphany.

FEBRUARY.

1. 2.30 p. m. Washington Chapel Guild Meeting.
   8 p. m. Reception to the Rector.
2. Presentation of Christ in the Temple.
   10.30 a. m. Meeting of the Convocation of Norristown in St. Peter's Church, Phoenixville.
5. Fifth Sunday after Epiphany.
12. Septuagesima Sunday.

The results of Mr. Burk's rectorship at All Saints' Church will be of interest to our readers, and will give encouragement to all to work zealously under his leadership.

September 1, 1894, to May 1, 1910: Baptisms, adults, 125, infants, 347, total, 466; confirmed, male, 164, female, 220, total, 384; communicants added by transfer, 150; marriages, 91; burials, 206; expenditures: Parochial, $95,885.54; Diocesan, $6,533.45; Extra Diocesan, $5,718.32; total, $108,137.31, not including benefactions of more than $40,000. These figures do not include Mr. Burk's work in St. John's Parish, nor in the mission at Valley Forge or the State Hospital.

The Incorporation of the Washington Memorial Chapel.

The Washington Memorial Chapel congregation was incorporated January 12, 1911, and we print in full the decree of the Court for the information of our readers:

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA:

In the Matter of the Application for a Charter for a Corporation to be known as The Rector, Church Wardens and Vestrymen of the Washington Memorial Chapel at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.

DECREE.

And now, the Third day of January, A. D. 1911, the foregoing certificate of incorporation having been on file in the Office of the Prothonotary of the Court of Common Pleas of Montgomery County since the 12th Day of December, A. D. 1910, the day on which notice of the intended application was first made, as appears from entry thereon, and due proof of the publication of notice in accordance with the statutes and rules of this Court having been presented to me, I do hereby

certify that I have perused and examined the said instrument and find the same to be in proper form and within the purposes stated in the first class of corporations as specified in section 2 of the Act of General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania entitled "An Act to provide for the incorporation and regulation of certain corporations," approved the 29th day of April, A. D. 1874, and its supplements, and that the same appears to be lawful and not injurious to the community.

It is therefore ordered, adjudged and decreed that the said charter be approved, and that upon the recording of the said charter and this order in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds in and for said county, which is hereby ordered, the subscribers thereto and their associates shall thenceforth be a corporation for the purposes and upon the terms therein stated, by the name of The Rector, Church Wardens and Vestrymen of the Washington Memorial Chapel at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.

By the Court.

H. K. WEAND, J.

Christmas at Valley Forge.

The following accounts of our festivals appeared in the Norristown Daily Herald on Dec. 23 and Dec. 26.

Stewart Fund Hall, King-of-Prussia, was the scene of a very bright Christmas festival last night. Since the resignation of the Rev. Francis T. H. Finn, this branch of the Washington Memorial Sunday School has been carried on chiefly through the efforts of Miss Tacey Brooke and Miss Mary Pugh, assisted by Mrs. Eldredge Pratt, Miss Katherine Rahn and Miss Edna Fisher. Mr. Edward T. Boggs has made monthly visits to the school and encouraged the workers, and at other times help has been given by some of the clergy, especially by the Rev. Henry N. Kieffer, D. D., working under the direction of the Rev. W. Herbert Burk.

The festival last night included a brief religious service conducted by Mr. Burk, recitations by members of the school and the Christmas carols and addresses by Mr. Burk and Mr. Boggs. Prizes were awarded to several for attendance, and gifts and candy were given by a real Santa Claus. A beautifully trimmed tree and festoons of laurel added greatly to the spirit of the festival

The members of the school are looking forward to the time when Mr. Burk will be their superintendent, as he will carry on this work as well as that at the Washington Memorial Chapel. The festival at the chapel will be held to-morow afternoon at 2.30 o'clock, and the children's Christmas service will be on Sunday afternoon at 3.45 o'clock.

Historic Gifts.

The Christmas festival of the Washington Memorial Chapel, Valley Forge, was held on Saturday, Dec. 24, in the beautifully decorated parish house. There were a brief service conducted by the Rev. Mr. Burk, who made an address, and recitations by members of the school and the singing of the Christmas carols. Santa Claus visited the scholars at the close of the festival and distributed candy and gifts. The former was generously provided by Mrs. Sarah S. Zulich.

The Rev. Henry M. Kieffer, D. D., officiated at the Christmas morning service, and the Rev. Mr. Burk at the afternoon service. The music at both services, under the direction of Miss Mary M. Hibbs, was excellent.

Great interest was aroused by the announcement by Mr. Burk of a Christmas gift to Valley Forge Museum. The gift includes the solid silver hot dish holder which belonged to Patrick Henry and a book from his law library; the letter which Lafayette sent to President James Monroe on the death of his wife; a letter of Gen. Muhlenberg advocating the removal of the seat of government from New York, and letters of several of the Presidents.

This gift will form an important addi-

tion to the Valley Forge Museum of American history.

The Mary Elizabeth Schofield Collection

Another named collection has been added to the Museum, and the gift was announced at the service on Christmas Day. The new collection is given "In Memoriam of Mary Elizabeth Schofield." and it is the purpose of the donor to make it one of the finest in the Museum. The articles received at Christmas are worthy of a place of honor, for they include the solid silver hot dish holder that belonged to Patrick Henry and a book from his law library, the letter written by Lafayette to President Monroe expressing his sympathy on the loss of his wife, and other letters and documents, including letters of several of the Presidents. The donor will make the letters of the Presidents complete, and will make other notable additions to the collection. While the documents will form the chief part of the memorial it is the donor's intention to present other interesting relics. This generous gift ought to stimulate all the friends of the Museum to work for the completion of the Washington Room this spring. Why not? The cost of this addition will be trifling in comparison with its usefulness.

A Lock of Lincoln's Hair.

When Mrs. Margaret Pechin presented to the Museum a lock of Washington's hair the whole country was interested in the gift, and the papers throughout the land recorded it. No less worthy of note is the lock of Lincoln's hair, presented by Miss Nina Boreiche Read, of Norristown. Mrs Louis W. Read, Miss Read's mother, received the lock from Major-General Charles Thomas, and it has been sacredly guarded by both mother and daughter. Miss Read's generosity will be appreciated by the visitors to Valley Forge, who can now see in the same room these personal mementoes of the Father of his Country and the Great Emancipator.

General Thomas was a veteran of the Mexican War, in which he won distinction. He gave to Mrs. Read a piece of one of the battle flags, and Miss Read has presented this to the Museum. We now have the Washington's Headquarters flag, this piece of one of the battle flags of the Mexican War, a piece of the Spanish flag from Morro Castle, the flag of the flag ship New York, and a Spanish battle flag. While we have no flag used in the Civil War, the collection is excelled by few Museums in the country.

While it may be difficult to secure a flag used in the War of 1812 we hope to add one to the collection, and ask our friends to help us in the search. There ought to be no great difficulty in finding a flag used in the Civil War, and attention is called to the need of one to make the collection more representative. There is surely some individual or Post of the Grand Army of the Republic willing to make such a gift.

Miss Nina Boreiche Read, of Norristown, has given to the Museum the little "Hymn Book for the Army and Navy," published by the American Tract Society, and a tract, "The Invitation," published by the Protestant Episcopal Book Society. These were carried by William Shultz when he received his death wound upon the field of Gettysburg.

Mrs. Alan Wood, Jr., of Conshohocken, has added to our collection of Washington relics a gift which her late husband received from the Rev. Dr. Atkins, Christmas, 1889. Dr. Atkins wrote, "I send you a memento of the Washington Centennial —a nut from a coffee tree planted at Mt. Vernon by George Washington." It is mounted for use as a watch charm.

A list of the articles in the Mary Elizabeth Schofield Collection is being prepared and will be published in one of the next numbers of the Chronicle.

Patrons and Patronesses of the Valley Forge Museum of American History.

Mrs. Hervey C. Gresh, of Norristown, has become one of the Life Patronesses of the Valley Forge Museum of American History. The list of Patrons and Patronesses is as follows:

PERPETUAL PATRONS.

Miss Sarah R. Chew, New Jersey.

Mrs. Ann Hunter Wood (Mrs. Alan Wood). In Memoriam.

LIFE PATRONS.

Mrs. Erastus Gaylord Putnam. New Jersey.

Mr. William Henry Pearson. Massachusetts.

Mrs. Hervey C. Gresh. Pennsylvania.

As has been explained in these columns, the gift of Two Hundred Dollars constitutes the donor, or some one named for the donor, a Perpetual Patron of the Valley Forge Museum of American History. The payment of Fifty Dollars constitutes the donor a Life Patron. The money received from the patrons is added to the Endowment Fund for the maintenance and extension of the Museum. At present we need a fund of Six Thousand Dollars, the interest to be used to provide a small salary for a curator. There ought to be no difficulty in securing this amount, or even much more than this. If the matter be properly presented the present list of Patrons will be multiplied many times, especially as the educational value of the Museum is so great, and is steadily increasing.

The following interesting item is taken from a letter of General Wayne to Judge Peters, December 30, 1777:

"We are busy in founding a city. My people will be covered in a few days. I mean as to huts, but half-naked as to clothing. They are, in this respect, in a worse condition than Falstaff's recruits, for they have not one whole shirt to a brigade—he had more than one to a company."

History of the Valley Forge.

BY HENRY WOODMAN.

LETTER X.

The location of the encampment of the main body of the army was on an eminence lying on the western side of the river Schuylkill, commencing on the farm then belonging to Mordecai Moore, the father of Jesse Moore, who was for many years presiding Judge of the sixth judicial district of Pennsylvania, and extending from thence, in a southwestwardly direction, having the front line of the encampment on the first elevation of the north valley hill, and since called the front line hill, more than two miles, and terminating on the farm of John Brown near the Valley creek, in Chester county, the greater part of the ground occupied for the purpose being in the then county of Philadelphia—now Montgomery. In order to protect themselves from an attack from the enemy they erected at the northern extremities of the encampment, two forts, one on the land of John Moore. The remains of them are still sufficiently visible to point out their size and situation, and to show the observer the uses for which they were intended. I shall speak more fully of them in some of my future letters, just mentioning in this place that in my early days, and as long ago as I can remember, these were called Mordecai Moore's Fort and John Moore's Fort, and as they still retain these names, they will in future references to them, be thus designated. From the first mentioned fort, they threw up a breastwork running from thence on the Front Line Hill, nearly its whole length, and terminating at a fort on the farm of John Brown. This was done by digging a ditch, of a sufficient depth, for the men in front, in case of an attack, to entrench themselves from the fire of the enemy. The earth that was excavated was thrown in such a position as to afford a similar entrenchment for those in the rear. My first recollection of this

breastwork was when about five years of age. At that time, I suppose, the ditch was about three feet deep, though after a lapse of twenty-three years it had been considerably filled up, and the embankment, formed by the excavation about the same height, a considerable portion of it still remaining in a tolerable good state of preservation. Other similar ones of shorter lengths were erected in other places, to be used in case of emergency.

On the rear line of the encampment a range of forts were erected, in a line nearly parallel with the Front line, commencing on the land of David Stehpens, and were called David Stephens' forts, and John Brown's forts, on account of their having been erected on the lands of these individuals. I do not know of any forts or redoubts being constructed on the Valley Forge Estate, neither have I ever seen the remains of any upon any part of it, from which I concluded that there were none on that property. In many places, and particularly between the forts, picket guards were placed to obstruct the advance of cavalry in case of an attack. These were formed of rails with one end sharply pointed, the other placed firmly in the ground, the pointed end elevated at an angle of about fifteen degrees, and placed so closely together that a horseman could not pass beteen them; many of the rails used for this purpose were left on the premises, and I have, since my time, seen many of them.

The distance from the Valley Forge to the front line hill, in a direct line, is about a mile and a half, which was the greatest width of the encampment. It was much narrower at its northeast and southwest termination, the river Schuylkill and the Valley creek governing the breadth of it at these places.

Mrs. Charles Lukens has added to our collection of Bibles a large folio published in 1771, with many illustrations and a commentary. Unfortunately the title page is missing,—the only defect. It is hoped that others will follow the example of Mrs. Lukens until we have a large collection of Bibles.

A VALLEY FORGE ORDERLY BOOK

Printed by Courtesy of Its late Owner Mr. George Clifford Thomas.

Valley Forge Head Quarters February 3d 1778.
Major General tomorrow Baron de Kalb
Brigadier Paterson Field officers Lt. Colo. Davis
Majr. Peters Brigade Major Berrian.

For a weeks Command Colo. Tupper Lt. Colo. Burr & Major Mintzer 9C. 16S. 27S. 27C. 6 DCF. 450F.

A report having circulated that Mr. Jones D. C. General of Issues had Granted a pass to a Woman to carry 30 lb of Butter into Philadelphia the Matter hath been fully inquired into and appears to be without foundation.—

Head Quarters Valley Forge February 4th 1778
Major General Green Brigadier Wayne
Field Officers Colo. Patten
Major Winslow Brigade Major Minnis.

At a General court martial whereof colonel Clarke was President January 27th 1778 charles Smith a Soldier in the first New Jersey Regiment tryd for deserting and Inlisting again as a substitute and acquitted. The General approves and orders him to be released from confinement.

The most pernitious practices having arrisen from suffering persons. women in particular to pass and repass from Philadelphia into camp under pretense of cumming out to visit their friends in the army and returning with necessarys to their families but really with an Intent to entice the soldiers to desert all officers are desired to exert their utmost endeavors to prevent such Interviews in the future by forbidding the soldiers under the Severest penalties from having any Communications with such persons and by ordering them when found in camp to be Immediately turned out of it if any of them appear under peculiar circumstances of suspicion they are to be brought to Immediate tryal and punishment If found Guilty.